

SENATE RESOLUTION 151

By Burchett

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Larry G. Cox on becoming one of the first five alumni to receive recognition on the Fulton High School Wall of Fame.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly pause in its deliberations to honor and recognize those citizens who, through their remarkable efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy individual is Larry G. Cox, who was recently honored by the Fulton High School Alumni Association, which will place his name, along with four others, on the Association's new Wall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, the Fulton High Wall of Fame will include the names of graduates who have led outstanding professional lives and given back to their communities in significant ways; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cox and his fellow Wall of Fame inductees were honored at a banquet held April 30 at Rothchild Catering and Conference Center in Knoxville; Fulton's current Principal, Jon Rysewyk, served as the event's keynote speaker, and guests were also treated to a video presentation focused on the inductees and their lives and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, the names of these five honorees will be inscribed on a wall on the second floor of the school, on the east side near the lobby outside the auditorium; the spot was chosen because so many students, staff members, and visitors pass by that wall everyday; and

WHEREAS, a 1960 graduate from Fulton High School, Mr. Cox continued his education at Castle Heights Military Academy, earning his post graduate degree in 1961; and

WHEREAS, furthering his education, he received an Associate Arts degree in 1963, from Cumberland College; adding to his vast expertise, Mr. Cox earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science from Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) in 1968; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation from MTSU, Mr. Cox began his esteemed career in the wholesale food distributorship industry with Homestead Egg Co., Inc., in Knoxville, which he currently presides over as President and owner; and

WHEREAS, an astute business man, he is also currently the President and owner of Chicken City in Knoxville, a retail food outlet specializing in fresh chicken, beef, and pork, and he also serves as principal co-owner of Cox Family Leasing, a family rental and leasing operation in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, a man of integrity who embodies the best of his community, he also currently serves as a Field Representative for U.S. Congressman John J. Duncan, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, he spent a long, distinguished, and illustrious career as a Knoxville City Councilman from 1983 until 2003, presiding with acumen and alacrity over numerous key initiatives, and earning the respect of his colleagues and constituents alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, deeply involved in his community, Mr. Cox volunteered his time and energies to a number of civic organizations, dedicating to each his coveted leadership style. He served as founding member and chairman of the D. D. Lewis Boys Club Celebrity Golf Tournament later named the Phillip Fulmer Golf Tournament, member of the Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame, member of Leadership Knoxville Class of 1986, chairman of the Small Gifts Division of the Boys and Girls Club of Knoxville Capital Funds Drive, member of the Greater Knoxville Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, member of the National Junior Pro Basketball Association Executive Rules Committee, member of the Mayor Victor Ashe Park Task Force, member of the Mayor Victor Ashe North Knoxville Recreation Search Committee, member of the Board of Directors of the Knoxville-Knox County Private Industrial Council, member of the James White Fort Association Board of Directors, member of the Share Food

Bank also known as the Second Harvest Food Bank Board of Directors, and he served as a member of the Board of Directors for the National Conference of Christian and Jews; and

WHEREAS, he currently commits his singular skills and esteemed abilities to several community organizations, serving as a member of the Board of Directors and the Advisory Board of the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley, member of the Board of Directors of the Emerald Youth Foundation, vice president and founding member of North Knoxville Business and Professional Association, member of the Advisory Board of the Tennessee Valley Fair, president of Friends of Adair Park, chairman of the Commercial and Residential Property Committee for Oakwood Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association, vice president and commissioner of football, basketball, and baseball of Knoxville Falcons Youth Athletics, member of the Board of Directors and Program Committee of W. C. Two (Wee Course at Williams Creek), member of the Personnel Committee of the Helen Ross McNabb Center, member of the Lonsdale Day Care Center, member of the Norwood Kiwanis Club, and member of the Greater Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame Ticket Sales Committee; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his recent inclusion on the Fulton High School Wall of Fame, the list of honors bestowed upon Mr. Cox is voluminous; among others, he was the honored recipient of the Knoxville Raiders Medal of Honor for honesty, the Boys Club of Knoxville Golden Man and Boy of the Year Award, the City of Knoxville Schools Parent-Teacher Association Citizen of the Year, the City of Knoxville Department of Public Safety Crime Prevention Unit Crimebiter Award, named Ambassador of Good Will and Kiwanian of the Year by the Kiwanis Club of Norwood, the Friend of Fountain City Award, named as Elected Greenways Champion by the Knoxville-Knox County Metropolitan Commission, the Amateur Football Award and the Distinguished American Award by the East Tennessee Chapter of the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame, and he was presented with the Care Award and the National Medallion by the Boys and Girls Clubs of America – Tennessee Area Council; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cox was especially humbled when Fulton High School named the school baseball field at Christenberry Park the Larry G. Cox Field in his honor and when Mayor

Victor Ashe and the Knoxville City Council changed the name of the North Knoxville Recreation Center to the Larry Cox Recreation Center in recognition of his twenty years of distinguished service to the citizens of Knoxville as a City Councilman; and

WHEREAS, given the list of his achievements and accolades, it is little wonder that Larry G. Cox would be placed on the Fulton High School Wall of Fame; he is a testament to the potential that Tennessee's high school students can realize if their ambition and talent are complemented by a rigorous education; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cox has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to the State of Tennessee, participating in numerous noteworthy clubs and social organizations including the Masters Lodge #244 of the Free and Accepted Masons, the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, thirty-second degree, Valley of Knoxville, Orient of Tennessee, the Kerbela Temple Shrine, the Royal Order of Jesters, the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 2698, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 1733, the Elk's Lodge 160, and the Holston Hills Country Club; and

WHEREAS, he has been an active and devout lifetime member of Emerald Avenue United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, dearly devoted to his family and always endeavoring to remain true to family values of the highest order, Larry G. Cox will be the first to say that the greatest achievement in his life is the love he has shared with his wife, Brenda Mize Cox, and their children, Nicholas Shane Cox and Brooke Erin Cox; and

WHEREAS, the success of this State, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people like Larry G. Cox who use their considerable talents and resources to serve their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Larry G. Cox has demonstrated a wholehearted commitment to the noble precepts that have earned Tennessee that proud moniker, the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Larry G. Cox on being one of the first five alumni to receive recognition on the Fulton High School Wall of Fame, commend him for the service he has rendered to the people of his community and this State, and wish him all the very best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.